

# News from the FPPC



California Fair Political Practices Commission  
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[www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

For Immediate Release: October 13, 2011

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## FPPC Enforcement Decisions: October 13, 2011

The following are enforcement decisions approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its regular monthly meeting held on Thursday, October 13, 2011. Decisions are listed by category and include a brief summary of each case and the total amount of any administrative fine or fines in each case.

Additional information on each of the enforcement cases below can be found in the October agenda on the FPPC website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov). FPPC agendas are distributed and posted on the agency website at least 10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

The web version of the agenda includes links to the stipulations agreed to by the commission and by the individuals and organizations subject to the fines, or the default decisions proposed to the commission. Exhibits in support of the stipulations and proposed default decisions are also available on the website. If you are unable to access the FPPC website, or need further assistance, please call the FPPC communications office at (916) 322-7761.

### Campaign Reporting Violations

**Monterey County Republican Central Committee and Chris Steinbruner.** Monterey County Republican Central Committee and Chris Steinbruner, the committee's treasurer, failed to timely file late contribution reports disclosing contributions made in the amount of \$530,183 and received in the amount of \$20,000; failed to report on a pre-election campaign statement for the reporting period ending September 30, 2006, required subvendor information; impermissibly accepted three contributions each in excess of the \$30,200 contribution limit from one source for the purpose of making contributions to support candidates for elective state office; and used contributions in excess of the contribution limit to make contributions to candidates for elective state office. **\$25,000 fine.**

**Maxine Sherard, Sherard for Assembly 2006, and Sherard for Assembly 2008.** Maxine Sherard, a candidate for the California State Assembly in 2006 and 2008 and her candidate-controlled committees, Sherard for Assembly 2006 and Sherard for Assembly 2008, failed to file amended statements of organization regarding changes as to committee treasurers. In addition, they failed to file semi-annual campaign statements for reporting periods ending June 30, 2008, November 7, 2008, December 31, 2008, June 30, 2009, December 31, 2009, and June 3, 2010; failed to file terminating statements of organization; failed to report all required information regarding loans received on campaign statements filed for reporting periods ending May 17, 2008 and June 30, 2008; and failed to refund a general election contribution in excess of campaign contribution limits, after losing in the primary election. **\$20,000 fine.**

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### **Major Donor Violations**

A major donor is a person or entity who makes contributions totaling \$10,000 or more in a calendar year and is required to file campaign reports detailing how much was contributed and to whom. The following failed to file major donor reports as required by law:

**Thomas C. Ford** failed to timely file major donor semiannual reports covering the periods January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010, due July 31, 2010, and July 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, due January 31, 2011. **\$800 fine.**

### **Statements of Economic Interests Violations**

California law requires elected officials, certain board members and governmental employees, and consultants employed by governmental entities to complete and file Statements of Economic Interests (SEIs or Form 700s). SEIs serve a dual purpose: they make a filer aware of personal economic interests relative to a governmental decision, and they are an important disclosure document for the public and media. The following individuals failed to file their Statement of Economic Interests forms on time:

**Chris Miley**, City of Oakland employee, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Risha Jamison**, City of Oakland employee, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Benjamin Scott**, Commissioner, Oakland Rent Board, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Robert Dias**, Project Manager, City of Oakland, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Michael R. Wright**, Commissioner for the City of Sonoma Parking and Traffic Commission failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, due April 1, 2011. **\$200 fine.**

**Jo-Ellen Spencer**, Board/Commission member for the City of Oakland, failed to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Patricia Breslin**, a member of the City and County of San Francisco Rate Fairness Board, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010, due April 1, 2011. **\$200 fine.**

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